In the Claims

In Claim 1, line 5, after "(1001)" insert --a--.

In Claim 2, line 1, delete "the preceding claim" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 3, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 4, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 5, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 6, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 6, line 8, after "does not", replace "comprises" with --comprise--.

In Claim 7, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 8, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 9, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 10, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 11, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 12, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 12, line 2, after "referring to", replace "the" with --a--.

In Claim 13, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

In Claim 14, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 1--.

15. (Amended) A system[, in particular] implementing a virus-free certificate proxy, [comprising means adapted for carrying out the method according to any one of the preceding claims.] said system comprising a processor that executes a program for implementing a method having the steps of:

- receiving (1001) virus-free certificate request for a file;
- selecting a virus-free certificate authority (104, 804) having authority to generate a virus-free certificate (200) for the file;

2

- requesting (1003..1007) the virus-free certificate to the selected virus-free certificate authority (104, 804);

- receiving (1003..1007) from the selected virus-free certificate authority the generated virus-free certificate;

sending back (1005) in response to the virus-free certificate request the received virus-free certificate.

16. (Amended) A computer program recorded on a computer-readable medium and comprising instructions for [carrying out the] executing a method [according to any one of claims 1 to 14.] having the steps of:

- receiving (1001) virus-free certificate request for a file;

- selecting a virus-free certificate authority (104, 804) having authority to generate a virus-free certificate (200) for the file;

- requesting (1003..1007) the virus-free certificate to the selected virus-free certificate authority (104, 804);

- receiving (1003..1007) from the selected virus-free certificate authority the generated virus-free certificate;

sending back (1005) in response to the virus-free certificate request the received virus-free certificate.

In the Abstract

In the Abstract, delete lines 1-17 and insert

--**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A method and system as disclosed for use in a virus-free certificate proxy (107, 801), of retrieving from one or a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities (104, 804) a virus-free certificate (200) certifying that a file is virus-free. The method includes the steps of: receiving (1001) virus-free certificate request for a file; selecting a virus-free certificate authority (104, 804) having authority to generate a virus-free certificate (200) for the file; requesting (1003...1007) the virus-free certificate to the selected virus-free certificate authority (104, 804); receiving (1003...1007) from the selected virus-free certificate authority the generated virus-free